

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: the disclosure appears to lack antecedent basis in the written description for 15Å as recited in claim 31.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

Claim 3 is objected to because of the following informalities: a duplicate "wherein" should be deleted. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 1, line 5, the term "within" appears to imply that the moieties are within the head cap-like portion. However, it appears from the specification that the moieties are actually coated on the head cap-like portion. (The term "within" should be replaced with "on".)

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 1 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

Claims 3, 4 and 6-45 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

It is noted that the term "micronail", including the base and head, refers to a structure in the micron or nanometer scale as supported by paragraph 0023.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ANN Y. LAM whose telephone number is (571)272-0822. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Thurs. 9-7:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Shibuya can be reached on 571-272-0806. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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/Ann Y. Lam/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1641